

1       1. A computer network comprising:  
2             one or more service computers configured to provide  
3     multiple network services via the network,  
4             one or more connection devices that allow multiple  
5     network client computers to access the services via the  
6     network, and  
7             a single routing computer that serves as a firewall  
8     through which all traffic between the network services and  
9     the network client computers must pass.

1       2. The computer network of claim 1, wherein the  
2     routing computer includes a static route table containing  
3     predefined rules that govern the flow of traffic between the  
4     network services and the network client computers.

1       3. The computer network of claim 1, further  
2     comprising at least one other routing computer that acts as  
3     a firewall through which all traffic between the computer  
4     network and the network client computers must pass.

1       4. The computer network of claim 3, wherein the  
2     other routing computer includes a static route table  
3     containing predefined rules that govern the flow of traffic  
4     between the computer network and the network client  
5     computers.

1       5. The computer network of claim 1, wherein the  
2     connection device is configured to allow access via a public  
3     frame relay.

1           6. The computer network of claim 1, wherein the  
2 connection device is configured to allow access via a PPP  
3 link.

1           7. The computer network of claim 1, wherein the  
2 connection device is configured to allow access via an ISDN  
3 link.

1           8. The computer network of claim 1, wherein the  
2 connection device is configured to allow access via the  
3 Internet.

1           9. The computer network of claim 8, further  
2 comprising another routing computer that acts as a firewall  
3 through which all traffic between the network services and  
4 the Internet must pass.

1           10. A method for use in providing network services  
2 via a computer network to multiple network client computers,  
3 the method comprising:

4                 allowing the network client computers to access the  
5 services via one or more connection devices in the network,  
6 and

7                 requiring all traffic between the network services  
8 and the network client computers to pass through a single  
9 routing computer that acts as a firewall.

1           11. The method of claim 10, wherein the routing  
2 computer includes a static route table containing predefined  
3 rules that govern the flow of traffic between the network  
4 services and the network client computers.

1           12. The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 requiring all traffic between the computer network and the  
3 network client computers to pass through at least one other  
4 routing computer that acts as a firewall.

1           13. The method of claim 12, wherein the other  
2 routing computer includes a static route table containing  
3 predefined rules that govern the flow of traffic between the  
4 computer network and the network client computers.

1           14. The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 allowing the network client computers to access the network  
3 via a public frame relay.

1           15. The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 allowing the network client computers to access the network  
3 via a PPP link.

1           16. The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 allowing the network client computers to access the network  
3 via an ISDN link.

1           17. The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 allowing the network client computers to access the network  
3 via the Internet.

1           18. The method of claim 10, further comprising  
2 requiring all traffic between the network services and the  
3 Internet to pass through another routing computer that acts  
4 as a firewall.

1           19. A computer network comprising:  
2            a service computer configured to provide a network  
3       service to multiple network client computers via the  
4       computer network,

5            two routing computers, each of which acts as a  
6       firewall through which all traffic between the computer  
7       network and one of the network client computers must pass,  
8       and

9            another routing computer that acts as a firewall  
10      through which all traffic between the network service and  
11      the network client computers must pass.

1           20. The computer network of claim 19, further  
2       comprising a static route policy that governs the flow of  
3       traffic between the network services and the network client  
4       computers.

1           21. The computer network of claim 20, wherein the  
2       route policy comprises multiple route tables, each stored in  
3       one of the routing computers.

1           22. A method for use in providing a network service  
2       to multiple network client computers via a computer network,  
3       the method comprising:

4            requiring all traffic between the computer network  
5       and each of the network client computers to pass through one  
6       of two routing computers that act as firewalls, and

7            requiring all traffic between the network service  
8       and the network client computers to pass through another  
9       routing computer that acts as a firewall.

1           23. The method of claim 22, further comprising  
2 applying a static route policy to govern the flow of traffic  
3 between the network services and the network client  
4 computers.

1           24. The method of claim 23, further comprising  
2 distributing the route policy among multiple route tables,  
3 each stored in one of the routing computers.